

# Cheerleading Camp



Junior Claire Blackman spots second grader Kiley Russell as she practices flying in a stunt at the Little Dragon Cheer Camp on June 14. "I was just happy to help her learn," Blackman said. (Photo by Kati Anderson)

# Tahj Neely



While performing at a concert, junior Tahj Neely sings the song "Stylo." The concert was held in order to raise money for the Africa Oasis Project, providing clean water to people in need. "I was feeling very excited and energized," Neely said. (Photo by Kati Anderson)

# Morning Band Info

During marching band camp Aug. 4, sophomore Lauren Gabby stands at attention while waiting for instructions. "I was enjoying the breeze since it was a hot day," Gabby said. (Photo by Kati Anderson)



Senior Madison Colvin plays the clarinet in the intense heat of band camp. "I was just trying not to trip as I marched backwards," Colvin said. (Photo by Kati Anderson)



# Becca Swanson '17

My favorite place was Vienna, Austria, because we spent the most time there and we really got to explore the city. It was just really, really beautiful and we got lost a lot, which is really fun. It didn't feel like a touristy place, it actually felt like a city.

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# See you in europe

## Choir students meet up with Johnston students on trip to Europe

Wandering the streets of Budapest, Hungary, seniors Madison Clabaugh, Becca Swanson and Alaina Lampe eagerly looked for the nearest McDonalds for free WiFi. Once found, they texted former student Chloe Olson, now a Budapest resident since her sophomore year, to meet them there.

Members of the Heartland Youth Choir from all over Iowa took a 10-day trip to tour some of the major cities in Germany, Austria, Hungary and Slovakia. They sang in famous landmarks such as the St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna and inside a wooden church in Slovenia. They toured the Schonbrunn and Hofburg Imperial Palace in Vienna, and many other well known castles.

The girls waited excitedly outside the McDonald's to meet Olson. It felt like forever until they finally saw her walking down the sidewalk. "We were nervous that we weren't going to recognize her," Lampe said.

The girls quickly embraced in a group hug. They had not seen each other since Olson moved. "It was really exciting to see her and how she had changed," Swanson said.

The girls were only able to talk for a few minutes before they had to return to their tour bus. However, they could not remember how to get there. Olson knew the area and helped them find their way. "We were really good at getting lost, we were glad that she helped us," Clabaugh said.

The director, Barbara Sletto, allowed Olson to ride along to the concert. Olson was only able to stay for the warm-ups before she had to go home to babysit her brother. "It was sad that she had to leave so soon, but it was cool that we got to catch up with her after two years," Swanson said.

In Austria, Swanson and Clabaugh happened to cross paths with another Johnston student. "I was walking through a shopping district in Salzburg, Austria, with my friend who I travel with, and as we walked by a souvenir store I heard someone calling my name," senior Trent Wignall said. Clabaugh and Swanson ran out of the souvenir shop. "They were like, "Oh my gosh, no way, we're in Europe at the same place at the same time. This is unreal!," Wignall said. He was staying in Europe for two weeks on a family vacation, their next destination was Vienna.

The choir was scheduled to sing at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna later in the trip and mentioned that to Wignall. To garner attention for their performance, the choir warmed up on the sidewalk outside the church. In the crowd, the girls spotted Wignall and his family. "He mentioned he was going to Vienna, but we never thought that we would see him a second time," Clabaugh said. "Becca just started going crazy, and ran out of the choir. It was Trent again. How was it possible we saw him here once and now twice."

The Wignalls later attended the performance that afternoon. The girls were mesmerized by St. Stephen's Cathedral. "When we were done singing all of our voices would echo throughout the cathedral and it sounded beautiful," Lampe said.

Seeing two friends from Johnston made the world seem so small. "You never would think you would see someone you know in a totally different place, I've never been to Europe before so it was just a crazy experience," Clabaugh said.